

HEALTH

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Borough of South Molton

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# Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ended December 31st, 1944.

**W. GRADDON MORTIMER,**

Medical Officer of Health.

# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE BOROUGH OF SOUTH MOLTON For the Year ended December 31st, 1944.

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POPULATION OF THE SOUTH MOLTON BOROUGH ... 3,073

## BIRTH RATE.

LIVE BIRTHS—Males 26, Females 21.

Legitimate— „ 24, „ 19.

Illegitimate— „ 2, „ 2.

STILL BIRTHS—Male 1, Females 3.

Legitimate— „ —, „ 2.

Illegitimate— „ 1, „ 1.

## DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE.

Legitimate— Male 1, Female 1.

Illegitimate— „ —, „ —.

## DEATH RATE.

ALL CAUSES— Males 19, Females 16. Total 35

South Molton Borough Death Rate per 1,000 ... 11.3

South Molton Borough Birth Rate per 1,000 ... 15.2

England and Wales Death Rate per 1,000 ... 11.6

England and Wales Birth Rate per 1,000 ... 17.6

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ... ... Nil

„ „ Whooping Cough ... ... Nil

„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ... Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH.					Males	Females
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Cancer of Buccal Cavity and Oesophagus					1	—
„ Stomach and Duodenum ...					2	1
„ Breast ...	...	...	...	...	—	1
„ All other Sites ...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Total <u>6</u> due to Cancer						
Heart Disease ...	...	...	...	...	4	2
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	3	—
Intra Cranial Muscular Lesions ...				...	3	1
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Congenital Mat. Birth Injuries ...	...	...	...	...	1	2
Other Maternal causes ...	...	...	...	...	—	1
All other causes ...	...	...	...	...	—	3

#### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

3 cases of Diphtheria.

1 case of Pneumonia.

No other cases notified during 1944.

3 cases of Diphtheria removed to Tiverton Isolation. All three had been immunised. The first case was of the Mitis type. The second case was of the Gravis type. The third case was not typed.

Each type reproduces its own particular type, i.e., Mitis reproduces Mitis, Gravis - Gravis and Intermedius - Intermedius.

Immunisation does not in all cases make the child immune. Some children remain susceptible after immunisation. How can we discriminate? By the Schick Test, which, if it reacts, shews the child is not immune, and in this case further injections of A.P.T. are desirable. There is, however, I think, a disadvantage in constantly giving hypodermic injections to young children. Recently another method of taking some immunising agent by the mouth is under trial.

## MEASLES.

None notified.

I shall be glad if anyone can tell me the object of notifying this disease.

## TUBERCULOSIS.

19 on Register on 17th November, 1944. Only 1 case notified in 1944.

WATER SUPPLY is a chlorinated piped supply and the analysis has always been very good.

W. G. MORTIMER,

*Medical Officer of Health,*

SOUTH MOLTON.